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Woody to Dearly Beloved Brother, 26 October 1961

Elwood R. Maunder

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Forest History Society Inc.

2706 West Seventh Blvd
Saint Paul 16 Minnesota



October 26, 1961

Director

Elwood R Maunder/Saint Paul, Minn.

Dr. James W. Silver
Department of History
University of Mississippi
University, Mississippi

Dearly Beloved Brother:

I appreciate having a preview copy of your paper, "The Tragedy of Southern Leadership, 1820-1860," which you sent me. And I have read it with much interest and with growing admiration for your scholarly skills. November 19th shall be set aside in the offices and library of this noble institution as a day of prayer for Silver, who will be charging bravely across the open fields of Gettysburg on that date. May God protect you then and in the days that follow against the slings, arrows, blackjacks and other evil weapons which the unreconstructed will wield against you.

This is a damned fine paper, Jim. It deserves publication and I've no doubt that some discerning editor will early recognize its merits. As you know without my telling, I'm too damned ignorant of history to make any pithy criticisms of what you have said. I can only rattle off a few pipsqueak~~ed~~ corrections which you have already made in copyreading. (Page 5 has an incomplete sentence in last paragraph.....volition is spelled wrong, last word page 10... typo on page 32, "drew" should be Crew.)

I'd give a lot to be able to be on hand to hear you read your paper next month, but I'm too damned poor to join in celebrating the Civil War. My splendid new letterhead (designed at no cost to me by Stephen Lion, Inc., of New York) is the regal robe of an operation which is badly in need of underwear, socks and shoes. I'm again carrying on my crusade with a bank balance that only barely remains black, which is my favorite color as long as I'm operating north of a certain geographical line.

John Moore has written saying Hickman's book is nearly ready to go to press and the University Press needs the \$1,000 pledged by the FHS. And they'll get it, of course, if I have to eat~~ed~~ baled hay for a few months. What do you know about the book and its progress? How good a job is being done? Have you seen page proofs or design of the book? How much will it sell for? How many copies can FHS reasonably expect for its \$1,000?

All the best.

Cordially,

Woody

ERM/erm

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"What is Jim doing to preserve his personal papers?"
P.S. As I read your paper - the thought kept coming to me - "what is Jim doing to preserve his personal papers?"
What are you doing? I'll be glad to smuggle them out if you need help.